



Association of Pacific Island Legislatures

American Samoa
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
FSM, State of Chuuk
FSM, State of Kosrae
FSM, State of Pohnpei
FSM, State of Yap
Island of Guam
Republic of Kiribati
Republic of the Marshall Islands
Republic of Nauru
Republic of Palau
State of Hawaii

A RESOLUTION

APIL Resolution No. 34-GA-06

“Extending the heartiest appreciation of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures to the Members of the 33rd Guam Legislature and to the Governor of the Territory of Guam for the passage and signing into law of two very significant and important measures providing eligibility for COFA residents to financial aid at the University of Guam and providing for COFA residents to serve in the Guam Police Department’s Civilian Volunteer Reserve Force.”

1 **WHEREAS**, earlier this year, the 33rd Guam Legislature, *Liheslaturan Guåhan*,
2 enacted two very important bills which were then signed into law affecting COFA migrants
3 residing on Guam; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the first of these two bills, entitled “the Equal Opportunity in Higher
5 Education Act of 2015”, provides that migrants from the Republic of Palau, the Republic of
6 the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia are eligible for University of
7 Guam financial aid programs which in Fiscal Year 2015 amounts to approximately \$3.5
8 million in six different need-based and merit-based financial aid programs; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the second measure provides that migrants from the Republic of Palau,
10 the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia may be recruited
11 by the Chief of Police to serve in the Guam Police Department’s Civilian Volunteer Reserve
12 Force; and

13 **WHEREAS**, this second law also allows COFA migrants who join the volunteer
14 program to serve as temporary full-time officers in a Police Officer 1 position in certain
15 circumstances when there is a vacancy on the permanent force; and

1 **WHEREAS**, these laws have been enacted by the Guam Legislature in a generous
2 and praiseworthy effort to assist COFA migrants in becoming meaningful members of the
3 economic and social societies of the Island of Guam; now, therefore,

4 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 34th General
5 Assembly, July 7-10, 2015, Island of Pohnpei, FSM, that the Association of Pacific Island
6 Legislatures hereby extends its heartiest appreciation to the Members of the 33rd Guam
7 Legislature, *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, for the passage of these two very significant and
8 important bills and to the Governor of Guam for signing these measures into law; and

9 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures
10 hereby extends a very special message of appreciation to Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz of
11 the 33rd Guam Legislature, *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, for his courage and understanding in
12 introducing both of these measures into the Guam Legislature for consideration by his fellow
13 Senators; and

14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify and the APIL
15 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same shall be thereafter
16 transmitted to the Speaker of the 33rd Guam Legislature, *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, to the
17 Governor of the Territory of Guam, to Vice Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz of the 33rd Guam
18 Legislature, *Liheslaturan Guåhan*, and to the Chief Executives and the Legislative Presiding
19 Officers of each member jurisdiction of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 9TH DAY OF JULY, 2015.



KENNETH A. KEDI
PRESIDENT



FERNANDO SCALIEM
SECRETARY

